

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 018076
ORIGIN CU-04

INFO OCT-01 AS-01 EA-09 ISO-00 USIA-15 /030 R

DRAFTED BY CU/ARTS:BGERSTEIN:WW
APPROVED BY CU/ARTS:PEWHEELER
CU/EA:DFERGUSON
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION
USIA/IEA:IKLECHA; USIA/ICS/DA:AGRABELL
-----270945Z 061009 /10

R 270015Z JAN 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
INFO AMCONSUL MELBOURNE
AMCONSUL SYDNEY

UNCLAS STATE 018076

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL

SUBJECT: TWYLA THARP DANCE COMPANY FOR 1978 ADELAIDE
FESTIVAL

REF: CANBERRA 93

1. TWYLA THARP'S MANAGER RHODA GRAUER ADVISED DEPT IN
EARLY DECEMBER THAT ANTHONY STEELE WAS REQUESTING TRAVEL
FUNDS FROM DEPT FOR COMPANY TO APPEAR AT 1978 ADELAIDE
FESTIVAL THROUGH U.S. EMBASSY CANBERRA. AT THAT TIME
GRAUER WAS ADVISED DEPT COULD NOT PAY INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL
AND THAT WE HAD NOT YET HEARD FROM OUR EMBASSY REQUESTING
TRAVEL FUNDS.

2. CU/ARTS DISCUSSED LATEST DETAILS OF TOUR WITH GRAUER

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JANUARY 25 AND ASCERTAINED FOLLOWING. ORIGINAL OFFER FROM
STEELE WAS FOR FOUR WEEKS OF TOURING IN AUSTRALIA, NEW
ZEALAND AND PHILIPPINES PAYING FEE OF DOLS 26,000 PER WEEK
PLUS TRANSPORTATION FROM U.S. FOR 14 TO 16 PERSONS.

3. AT END DECEMBER STEELE ADVISED GRAUER THAT AUSTRALIAN
GOVERNMENT HAD CHANGED AND ATTITUDE OF ARTS COUNCIL NOW

LESS GENEROUS AND HE DID NOT BELIEVE FESTIVAL COULD TAKE

COMPANY. GRAUER ADVISED COMPANY HAD GIVEN UP SIX WEEKS OF U.S. TOURING AND HOPED MEANS COULD BE FOUND TO REINSTATE TOUR. STEELE CALLED BACK LAST WEEK TO ADVISE, BESIDE FESTIVAL, HE WAS OFFERING COMPANY TO CITIES IN AUSTRALIA (MELBOURNE AND SYDNEY MENTIONED) AT DOLS 20,000 A WEEK BUT TRAVEL MONEY STILL UNRESOLVED. COMPANY RELUCTANTLY AGREED ACCEPT DOLS 20,000 WEEKLY INSTEAD DOLS 26,000. ASKED AGAIN IF DEPT COULD PAY TRANSPORTATION TO/FROM AUSTRALIA WHICH WE COULD NOT COMMIT. WE EXPLAINED PAYMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR GROUP IN 1976 ADELAIDE FESTIVAL WAS EXCEPTION BECAUSE OF BICENTENNIAL.

4. COMPANY HOPES TOUR WILL BE CONFIRMED AT EARLY DATE. IF LACK OF TRAVEL FUNDS PRECLUDES COMPANY FROM GOING TO NEW ZEALAND, PHILIPPINES AND OTHER COUNTRIES IN EAST ASIA, THEY WOULD BE HAPPY SPEND ENTIRE PERIOD IN AUSTRALIA.

5. DEPT CAN NOT COMMIT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO THIS PROJECT AT THIS TIME. IF POST INTERESTED IN GETTING IN ON EARLY NEGOTIATIONS, SUGGEST WORK CLOSELY WITH STEELE AND POSSIBLY ASSIST IN FUND RAISING FROM LOCAL AUSTRALIAN OR AMERICAN BUSINESS FIRMS IN AUSTRALIA.

6. DEPT WOULD APPRECIATE BEING KEPT ADVISED AS TOUR DEVELOPS AND AS FUNDS ARE RAISED. GRAUER ANXIOUS LEARN STATUS OF TOUR ASAP.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770029-0658
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From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
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Office: ORIGIN CU
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 CANBERRA 93
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3483926
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TWYLA THARP DANCE COMPANY FOR 1978 ADELAIDE FESTIVAL
TAGS: SCUL, AS, TWYLA THARP DANCE COMPANY
To: CANBERRA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8ab938d0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009